Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 6, through page 9, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

It is desirable to provide a number of degrees of freedom to the system manager by permitting access to individual radio channels in small capacity increments. For example, various Forward Error Correction (FEC) coding rates, modulation types, and number of bits per symbol may be changed and/or allocated to different user connections based upon observed channel conditions and instantaneous demand for bandwidth access. A co-pending patent application Serial No. [[_____]] 09/773,253 filed on even date herewith entitled "Maximizing Data Rate by Adjusting Codes and Code Rates in CDMA System" (Attorney Docket No. 2479.2021-000) (TAN00-11), provides further details of how such a system may be implemented. Briefly, network gateway connection equipment 101 may provide connections from the base station 14 to a data network such as the Internet 100. For signals traveling from the base station 14 towards the subscriber unit 20, the network traffic signals which may be formatted as typical network layer messages, such as Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) messages, are fed from the gateway to network interfaces circuits 102. The segmenting circuit removes the TCP/IP formatting information forwarding the data to a blocking function 111. The block function groups bits into a predetermined block size before they are fed to Forward Error Correction (FEC) process 112. The FEC process adds error correction information to groups of data bits prior to there being fed to a symbol encoding process 113. The symbol encoding process further groups bits in groups of two, three, four, or larger bits depending upon the type of radio frequency modulation that is in use at any particular time. For example, if Quadrature Phase Shift Keyed (QPSK) modulation is being used, bits are grouped in groups of four for each QPSK symbol. Radio frequency up conversion circuits 115 provide the radio signal to a base station transmit antenna 116.